

May 21, 2007

PROJECT: CROSS SECTOR COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE STUDENT PERFORMANCE

TO: Deans, Colleges/Schools of Education

FROM: Jill Van Glubt, Chair, WA Professional Educator Standards Board

SUBJECT: PEAB Cross Sector Collaboration Pilot

The Washington Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) announces the availability of funds to pilot a partnership between one or two public/private higher education institutions, ESDs and school districts to use student performance data to drive coordinated strategic planning between P-12 and higher education via the Professional Education Advisory Boards (PEABs)..

BACKGROUND

The PESB is requesting proposals to pilot a project that would create a state-facilitated model partnership between one or two public/private higher education institutions, ESDs and school districts where their teacher candidates are placed for field experiences/internships and that employ significant numbers of program completers. The overall goal of the pilot is to develop an infrastructure that would create a regular and ongoing collaborative climate in which serious dialog focused on real student performance can occur.

In *Washington's System of Preparing and Certifying Educators* Report (PESB, December 2005), it was stated that "currently, student performance data and strategies for school and student learning improvement are not systematically shared with educator preparation programs or used to drive program improvements." The report proposed that there must be "strong and sustained collaboration between:

- ✓ OSPI School Improvement and educator preparation programs – to share data and develop collaborative statewide strategies that will inform and impact educator preparation programs;
- ✓ Educational Service Districts (ESDs), OSPI and educator preparation programs – to discuss continuing education and inservice professional development that are needed based on student performance data; and
- ✓ P-12 schools and educator preparation programs – to enhance preparation environments through more authentic grounding in issues and challenges of real practice."

This pilot proposes to use student performance data to drive and inform coordinated strategic planning between higher education, ESDs and school districts to improve student learning, close the achievement gap and contribute to a learner-centered system. PEABs are positioned to bridge this gap. However, rarely, if ever, do the PEABs have the opportunity to consider performance data, especially the performance of P-12 students who are receiving educational services/support or instruction from their program completers. The pilot is critical to the review process for program approval standard 1 (WAC 191-78A-250) and an essential step in rethinking the role and purpose of PEABs to complement a learner-centered system. Potentially, PEABs for each educator preparation program would replicate the infrastructure created via this pilot.

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Steps to reach this goal include:

1. Suspend compliance with WAC 181-78A-250(3)(4)(5)(6) for PEABs selected to participate in the pilot during the 2007-08 academic year.
2. Pilot PEABs submit an "end of pilot" report to the PESB that:
 - ✓ Identifies strategies to institutionalize ongoing, regular collaboration to use student performance data to inform educator preparation programs changes;
 - ✓ Develops a research agenda that asks the right questions and identifies the right data sets to link educator preparation program standards to student performance;
 - ✓ Develops recommendations that address WAC changes related to PEABs (membership, purpose, operation, focus) that will result in the reconstitution of PEABs to assume this envisioned coordinated and collaborative strategic planning between P-12 and higher education;
 - ✓ Identifies strategies to assist districts meet the No Child Left Behind "highly qualified" teacher requirements; and
 - ✓ Describes opportunities for teacher preparation environments that include more authentic grounding in the issues and challenges of real practice.

Partnership participants will commit to a more in-depth data analysis, including, but not limited to:

- ✓ **Performance Data** – P-12 student performance data, residency and professional certificate program completer data.
- ✓ **Needs Assessment Data** – an analysis of districts' projected staffing needs and credentialing needs of existing staff to identify implications for enrollment and program offerings of the higher education partner.
- ✓ **Highly Qualified Teacher Data** – a review of the extent to which teachers of core academic subjects in the partnership districts meet the No Child Left Behind "highly qualified" requirements.

The sharing and analysis of data implies a results-driven approach in which consumers play a vital role in providing feedback and influencing changes.

AVAILABLE FUNDING AND SUPPORT

The PESB will administer the funding allocated from certification fees for the project, provide a staff person to facilitate the project, if required, and record the process involved in creating a new infrastructure required to institutionalize ongoing collaboration.

Funds typically allocated to the PEAB(s) involved in the pilot will be made available. In addition, increased funding will be provided to support supplies, meetings in addition to the typical four meetings, sub reimbursement for a maximum of seven district representatives and per diem/travel for ESD/district representatives not currently members of the PEAB(s).

PROPOSALS

Proposals must include:

1. The attached application cover sheet
2. Letters of commitment from each ESD/district partner
3. Timeline for the pilot activities
4. Proposed Budget

Proposals must be received by the PESB by 4:00 p.m. on July 13, 2007.

Mail applications to the PESB office at the address to below.

Dr. Lin Douglas
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board
Old Capitol Building
600 Washington Street, Rm 249
P.O. Box 47236
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

Applicants will be notified no later than July 31 regarding their status.

WASHINGTON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR STANDARDS BOARD
600 Washington Street, Room 249, Old Capitol Building, PO Box 47236
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

**CROSS SECTOR COLLABORATION
PILOT PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION
2007-08**

GENERAL INFORMATION

HIGHER EDUCATION APPLICANT	LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON	FAX
ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	FISCAL CONTACT PERSON	FAX
DISTRICT/ESD PARTNERS:	TELEPHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS

CERTIFICATION

I, _____
Print Dean Name

certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this application are true and correct and the applicant will comply with the application if the application is approved.

Dean Signature

Date

Applicants must ensure that the application reaches PESB by 4 p.m., July 13, 2007.

NO FAXES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

E-Mail: Lin.Douglas@k12.wa.us

Return to: Dr. Lin Douglas
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board
Old Capitol Building
600 Washington Street, Room 249
PO BOX 47236
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7236

PESB USE ONLY

Application approved by: _____ Date: _____

Comments: